

Connecticut County-By-County Breakdown Shows the Harm of Not Extending Unemployment Insurance

24,000 in Connecticut set to lose coverage statewide

If Congress fails to extend the federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation program nearly 24,000 people in Connecticut will their insurance coverage immediately on Dec. 28. An additional 28,700 people in Connecticut will lose their coverage in the first six months of 2014 if Republicans continue to block an extension of the program.

Federal unemployment insurance took effect in 2008 and has been reauthorized several times since as Americans continue to recover from the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. Despite the real progress the economy has made since its near collapse in 2008, there are still 1.3 million fewer jobs than there were before the recession began and long-term unemployment as a percentage of the unemployed is 37 percent, near historic highs.

Failure to extend federal unemployment insurance would also hurt job growth throughout the nation, costing the economy 240,000 jobs, according to the White House Council of Economic Advisers. The CEA estimates that in Connecticut alone, failing to extend the program will cost 5,788 jobs.

COUNTY	# of People Losing Coverage Dec. 28
Fairfield County	5,003
Hartford County	6,534
Litchfield County	1,159
Middlesex County	959
New Haven County	6,950
New London County	1,865
Tolland County	799
Windham County	728
Total in CT by County	23,997